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McCARTHY MEASURE READY

CIA 'Watch' Bill Expected

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WASHINGTON — Sen. McCarthy (D., Minn.) plans to propose today a congressional watchdog committee to ride herd over activities of the CIA and other foreign intelligence activities of the government.



McCarthy said Wednesday he will introduce a McCarthy bill he unsuccessfully pushed when he was a member of the house of representatives.

His decision to do so resulted from the involvement of the super-secret central intelligence agency in the Cuban invasion fiasco. CIA has practically a blind charter from congress, with only superficial review of its budget, personnel and programs. Other federal agencies are directly accountable to congress through regular standing committees.

Referring to the Cuban affair, McCarthy told the Pioneer Press Washington bureau, "This is an old problem, the fact that there is no complete congressional review or oversight of CIA activities and other foreign intelligence and information activities. The involvement of our government in the unfortunate Cuban situation simply points

up the need which has existed for so many years."

McCarthy's bill would create a joint house-senate committee on intelligence and information similar in operation to the joint committee on atomic energy. It would not have authority to send bills to the floor of either house but would recommend legislation for action by other committees.

The body would have jurisdiction over CIA, the United States information agency, and the overseas intelligence activities of the military services and other civilian agencies.

McCarthy was never successful in pushing his measure to a vote in the house.

However, Sen. Mansfield (D., Mont.), now the senate majority leader, introduced a similar measure in 1955 with 34 co-sponsors which did come up for a vote. It was beaten 27 to 50. Ten of the co-sponsors didn't vote for the bill although Sen. John F. Kennedy did. It is unlikely that Kennedy as president would approve of opening up CIA's books to congress now.

Mansfield, although still critical of CIA's operations, is reported to have no present plans to reintroduce his measure or team up with McCarthy.

Generally speaking, members of the senate foreign relations committee and house foreign affairs committee

want closer congressional supervision of CIA. Members of the two armed services and appropriations committees do not. This is because the only members of congress who have any access to detailed information about CIA's activities are members of the armed services and appropriations subcommittees.